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## A MESSAGE TO THE FREE WALLENBERG COMMITTEE

I am a Hungarian Jew, and so I feel particularly involved in the fate, the destiny, and the memory of Raoul Wallenberg. I feel particularly responsible for whatever happened, for whatever is happening and will happen to Raoul Wallenberg.

I am one of those he tried to help. Therefore to me, and to many Jews, the name Raoul Wallenberg is a legend unique in its purity and beauty. In those times of darkness there were not many people like Raoul Wallenberg. In those times of darkness only one person from a neutral country came, in spite of the neutrality of his own government, to help tens of thousands of victims. Because he is a symbol, we believe his name must be known and his life protected. Therefore, in Russia last summer, I tried to raise the case of Raoul Wallenberg with Soviet officials. Unfortunately, the moment one mentions the name Raoul Wallenberg, they become mute.

The same thing happened in 1965 and 1966 when I mentioned the problem of Soviet Jewry! Whenever I spoke about Russian Jews, people grew mute. Now Russian Jews are leaving Russia and going to Israel. Therefore more people should ask more Russians about Raoul Wallenberg — about the fate of this extraordinary person who will be remembered by generations to come.

He himself, one day, may tell his story.

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New York, January 18, 1980

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